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ABSTRACT

This final report announces the completion of a project, the purpose of which was to develop in coded machine retrievable form, a biographical data archive on the Soviet political elite, and in addition, to gather data on socio-economic and political factors in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. The computer processed data is intended to help researchers uncover significant patterns within the elite Soviet structure (those who have been members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union). Methods define the elite, then collect data about them. Problems encountered included the lack of specialists who are equipped to develop data sources, problems due to specialization, difficulty of collecting data because of the purging of political outcasts from official sources, and the unavailability of data on minor political figures. Project background information includes major sources for the bibliographical data. Appendices include 125 variables contained in a code book for Soviet political elite; a resume of instructions for users; and an information bulletin. The data file itself, held at the Russian Area Studies Center of Louisiana State University, is to be continuously updated. (SJM)

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AN AGGREGATE DATA ARCHIVE FOR THE RUSSIAN AREA STUDIES CENTER, LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

Peter R. Zwick
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

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The research reported herein was performed pursuant to a contract with the Office of Education, U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, under provisions of Title VI, Section 602, of the National Defense Education Act, Public Law 85-864, as amended.

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SUMMARY

The purpose of this project was to create a data archive at the Russian Area Studies Center of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge which would include information on the political leadership of the Soviet Union as well as aggregate socio-economic and political data on the USSR. It is intended that this data be made available to any researcher interested in employing empirically based data in Soviet studies.

The foundation of the project is an aggregate biographical analysis of all individuals who are or ever have been members of the Soviet political elite (defined as those who have been members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union). A codebook of all available data (Appendix I) and a resume of instructions for users (Appendix II) have been prepared in conjunction with this project. No data analysis was undertaken by the principal researcher so no material other than the codebook, instructions and an Information Bulletin (Appendix III) were prepared.

An attempt has been made to outline the purpose and limits of the project and to briefly indicate what methods were employed in the collection and organization of the data. However, the essential product of the project, the data file itself, is at Louisiana State University and was not made part of the final report.

The submission of this report indicates that the data archive is operational but not that the process of collecting data is completed. This project must be continuously updated if it is to remain useful and this will be carried out by the principal researcher in the future.

BACKGROUND FOR THE PROJECT

In recent years considerable attention has been directed toward developing approaches to the study of Soviet politics which would utilize the methodological techniques which have been employed widely in the social sciences. Under the general heading of "empiricism" social scientists concerned with Soviet studies have broken new ground in their application of a more "scientific" method to Soviet political phenomena.[1] However not all political scientists concerned with understanding these problems are prepared to develop their own data sources. This type of project requires considerable time and specialized training.

One type of data source which has received wide attention is the elite aggregate biographical archive. Specifically this consists of personal, demographic, educational and career information about the political elite of a country which is coded in machine retrievable form. This data can be computer processed in numerous ways depending upon the goals of the researcher in order to uncover significant patterns within the elite structure. Research of this type in the case of the Soviet political elite might include such questions as: are there any significant ethnic patterns which affect elite recruitment?; what are the age and sex patterns of the Soviet political elite and are they reflective of nationwide patterns?; what is the educational level of the Soviet political elite and is there any single educational specialization which is most conducive to elite recruitment?; what are the career orientations of the Soviet political elite and to what degree do they reflect the emergence of incipient interest group formation?

These questions do not exhaust but merely suggest the range of research possibilities open to the scholar who has access to elite biographical data. Unfortunately the availability of such data has been severely limited by two overriding factors. First,

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[1] See for example: Frederick J. Fleron, Communist Studies and the Social Sciences, (Chicago: Rand McNally & Company, 1969); R. Barry Farrell, Political Leadership in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, (Chicago: Aldine Publishing Company, 1970); Carl Beck, et al., Comparative Communist Political Leadership, (New York: David McKay Company, Inc., 1973). All of the preceding consist of numerous essays devoted to the problems of Communist leadership employing empirical techniques. See also, Milton Lodge, Soviet Elite Attitudes Since Stalin, (Columbus, Ohio: Charles E. Merrill Publishing Co., 1969). In addition archive projects have been organized at the University of Pittsburgh and Ohio State University.

very few specialists in Soviet studies are methodologically equipped to develop such data sources; and, second, when developed these data archives are not usually amenable to analysis by other scholars because the computer programs employed are highly specialized and oriented toward a specific type of computer hardware.

The purpose of this part of the project was then twofold. First, to develop a satisfactory data archive on the Soviet political elite which would be as inclusive as possible. Second, to organize the data so that it would be widely usable. Consequently, since the OSIRIS program developed under the auspices of the Inter-University Consortium for Political Research (ICPR) is the most widely used and generally available "canned computer package" the data for this project was organized specifically for use with this program. This does not mean that the data is inappropriate for use with other statistical packages but adaptation of coding may be necessary in some instances.

The existence of this data makes it possible for the user to call up any sub-set, or all, of the data and run it through any of the appropriate programs provided by the OSIRIS package. The determination of what can or cannot be done with the data is, of course, a function of the type of data being employed and the flexibility of the program. In each instance the user of the data would have to familiarize himself with the limits of both. In short, this project does not do everything for the researcher but it does simplify his tasks immeasurably.

In addition to data on the Soviet political elite this archive also provides data on demographic, social, economic and political factors in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. As was the case with the elites, information on the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe in general is difficult to collect and its reliability is open to question. The ICPR provides two essential sources for socio-economic and political data on the Soviet Union and the Eastern Europe states. They are the Yale Political Data Program and the Cross-Polity Survey. However as aggregate data sources they are subject to going out of data rather rapidly. Naturally, such a data archive is an ongoing process and the most important continuing task is to keep all data current. Owing to the vast quantity of potentially relevant data available it was decided that no useful purpose could be served by storing data which would be subject to rapid obsolescence. Consequently, aggregate data will be compiled and prepared on request depending on the research needs of the investigator. Since the data sources are on file the updating of any particular sub-set becomes a relatively simple matter when a specific request is made. If in the

future any new, significant sources of aggregate data become available, they will be included in the file to be made available to researchers.

Owing to the nature of this project this final report represents only an announcement of the completion of the project. No actual research was intended or done, therefore no findings, conclusions or recommendations are possible. The project consists of data only.

It is intended that the Russian Area Studies Center of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge serve as the repository of this data archive. The data will be provided to all interested parties on the basis described in the Information Bulletin (Appendix III). The data will also be available to students at Louisiana State University to use in conjunction with research for the Russian Area Studies Center or other related departments.

METHODS

The unit of analysis of this project is the Soviet political elite. The limits of this elite are not easily determined and there is unquestionably room for disagreement as to how inclusive such a designation should be. However, since the purpose of this project is to be as generally useful as possible, without imposing prior limits on the interests of potential researchers, the term Soviet political elite has been interpreted to include all those individuals who have ever served on the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The beginning date for the project is thus the first convocation of the All-Russian Social Democratic Labor Party (Bolshevik) when actually in power in Russia. This was actually the Sixth Congress of the Party held from August 8 to August 16, 1917 in Petrograd. The format is open ended so as to permit the updating and inclusion of all individuals who will occupy Central Committee positions in the future. Both full and candidate members of the central committee have been included in the elite designation.

Since the designation "Soviet political elite" is definitional, there is no way to empirically verify that the institutional limits of the CPSU central committee do, in fact, include all those who are Soviet political elites. For the purposes of this project the term Soviet political elite was taken to mean "those individuals who, owing to their technical and intellectual capacities, influence and participate in the making of policy in the Soviet Union."[2] While it is possible that there are individuals in the Soviet Union who satisfy this definition and are not members of the Central Committee, it is highly unlikely that their numbers are, or ever have been, significant. Be that as it may, it must be admitted that in the absence of any alternative technique for identifying the Soviet political elite the use of this institutional designation is the most generally accepted despite its admitted potential shortcomings.[3]

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[2]Peter Zwick, "An Aggregate Biographical Analysis of the Soviet Political Elite." (Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Duke University, 1971.)

[3]See for example: Serewyn Bialer, "Soviet Political Elite: Concept, Sample, Case Study" (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Columbia University, 1966); Michael Gehlen and Michael McBride, "The Soviet Central Committee: An Elite Analysis," American Political Science Review, LXII, No. 4 (December, 1968), 1232-41.

Determining the units of analysis was, of course, simply a preliminary step to the collection of the data. The availability of data on the lives of the members of the Soviet political elite is, as might be expected, extremely limited. Soviet sources are difficult to come by and notoriously unreliable owing to the practice of purging all mention of political outcasts from official sources. In addition the availability of information is also highly dependent upon the status of the individual in the elite hierarchy. The availability of data on minor political figures who served on the Central Committee in the 1930's for example is severely limited while data on the more prominent personalities of the same period is relatively abundant.

The major sources for the biographical data included in this project were: Edward Crowley, Andrew Lebed, and Heinrich Schulz (eds.), Party and Government Officials of the Soviet Union, 1917-1967, (Metuchen, New Jersey: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1969); Edward Crowley, Andrew Lebed, Heinrich Schulz (eds.), Prominent Personalities in the USSR, (Metuchen, New Jersey: The Scarecrow Press, Inc., 1968); Boris Levytsky, The Soviet Political Elite (Stanford: Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace, 1970); Peter Zwick, "An Aggregate Biographical Analysis of the Soviet Political Elite" (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Duke University, 1971).

The current sources on file for all socio-economic and political data are the Yale Political Data Program and the Cross-Polity Survey which are part of the data provided by the ICPR. As noted in the preceding chapter, this data is subject to obsolescence and is therefore subject to continuous update as new information becomes available. For reasons previously outlined no attempt was made to recode all of this data owing to the expense and time involved. However, it will be a relatively simple matter to provide available data on request. The limited needs of an individual researcher will therefore determine what type of data will be generated. This is a far more rational and economical method of procedure than abstract data collection.

The data on the elites (Appendix I) was collected from the sources referred to above and coded on standard IBM cards. A standard data file amenable to processing by the OSIRIS program was then built along with a dictionary file listing all variables included. The construction of the dictionary and data files now makes it possible for the user to call up any sub-set of the data and subject it to any of the statistical procedures provided by the OSIRIS package (Appendix II).

Upon request the principal researcher of this project will process this data and make it available to the researcher or, if desired, the

raw data will be provided for the researcher's own use. In either case, all operations will be carried out on a cost-plus-overhead basis.

The method employed in organizing the data is apparent in the code-book (Appendix I) and requires no additional explication.

Finally, it is intended that the "Information Bulletin" (Appendix III) be distributed to potentially interested parties at which time the Aggregate Data Archive for the Russian Area Studies Center, Louisiana State University will become operative. All requests for data will be handled through the Center and the archive itself will be the property of the Russian Area Studies Center as well as the principal researcher.

APPENDIX I

CODEBOOK FOR SOVIET POLITICAL ELITE DATASET

Variable No.	Description
1	Year Born 9999 N.A.
2	Gender 1 Male 3 Female 9 N.A.
3	National Origin 01 Russian 02 Ukrainian 03 Uzbek 04 Belorussian 05 Kazakh 06 Azerbaidjani 07 Armenian 08 Georgian 09 Moldavian 10 Lithuanian 11 Tadzhik 12 Turkmenian 13 Kirgiz 14 Latvian 15 Estonian 16 Tatar 17 Chuvash 18 Mordvinian 19 Bashkir 20 Udmurt 21 Chechen 22 Mari 23 Ossetian 24 Komi 25 Jew 26 German 27 Pole 28 Finn 29 Other Slav 30 Other Central Asian 31 Other Foreign Nationality 99 N.A.

Variable No.	Description
4	Class Origin 1 White Collar, Commercial 2 Worker 3 Peasant 9 N.A.
5	Education Level 0 None 1 Higher 2 Incomplete Higher 3 Secondary 4 Incomplete Secondary 5 Primary 6 Incomplete Primary 9 N.A.
6	Area of Specialization in Higher Education 0 No Higher Education 1 Engineering - Technical 2 Agricultural 3 University: Scientific - Mathematic 4 University: Arts & Letters 5 Military 6 Pedagogical 7 Law 8 Other 9 N.A.
7	Year Graduated from Higher Educational Institution 0000 Did not graduate 9999 N.A.
8	Higher Party Education (Highest Level) 0 None 1 Academy of Social Science 2 Higher Party School 3 Higher Party School-Correspondence 4 Interregional School 9 N.A.
9	Year Graduated from Party School (Last two digits) 00 Did not graduate 99 N.A.

Variable No.	Description
10	Military Service 0 None 1 Career: Began and ended before WW II 2 Career: Began before and included WW II Service 3 Career: Began During WW II 4 Career: Began After WW II 5 Non-Career: Pre-WW II 6 Non-Career: Pre-WW II, Returned for WW II 7 Non-Career: WW II 8 Non-Career: Post WW II 9 N.A.
11	Military Record 0 None 1 Officer: Military 2 Officer: Political 3 Enlisted Man (includes non-commissioned officer) 9 N.A.
12	Sector Where First Employed (non-military if not career) 01 Party Apparat (any level) 02 Gov't Bureaucracy (any level) 03 Industrial or Transport Management & Engineering 04 Agricultural Management (includes MTS) 05 Manual Labor: Industry, Transport, etc. 06 Farming 07 Military 08 Scientific-Mathematic Research 09 Academic, Education Work (any level) 10 Komsomol 11 Trade-Union 12 Diplomatic, Foreign Trade 13 Journalism 14 Legal 15 Arts & Letters 16 Medicine 17 Other 99 N.A.
13	General Career Orientation Same as V12

Variable No.	Description
14	Foreign Travel 0 None 1 West 2 Bloc 3 Third World 4 All 5 West and Bloc 6 West and Third World 7 Bloc and Third World
15	Foreign Service (Number of years in official service outside USSR) 00 None 81 Still in Service, entered 1917-1919 82 " " 1920-29 83 " " 1930-39 84 " " 1940-49 85 " " 1950-59 86 " " 1960-69 87 " " 1970-79 99 N.A.
16	Cause of Death 0 Alive 1 Assumed Natural Causes 2 Accidental 3 Suicide 4 Military Action 5 Assassinated 6 Executed 7 Liquidated, died in prison or exile 9 N.A.
17	Year of Death (last two digits) 00 Alive 99 N.A.
18	Revolutionary Experience 0 Not applicable, Born 1900 or after 1 Extensive (Pre-1905, 1905, 1917) 2 Limited (1917) 3 None (Born 1900 or before) 9 N.A.
19	Year Joined Party (RSDRP, CPSU) 9999 N.A.

Variable No.	Description
20	Age When Joined Party 99 N.A.
21	Reason For Leaving Party 0 Not applicable, still in party 1 Death (natural, accidental, suicide, military) 2 Liquidation, Execution, Died in Prison 3 Purged 4 Resigned voluntarily 9 N.A.
22	Year When Left Party 0000 Not Applicable, still in party 9999 N.A.
23	Age When Left Party 00 Not Applicable, still in party 99 N.A.
24	If General Orientation was Party Apparatus, Service Began Through: 0 Not Applicable 1 Recruitment 2 Co-optation (7 yrs in other areas) 3 N.A.
25	Age When Assumed First Elite Position 99 N.A.
26	Sector Where Employed When Became Elite Same as V12
27	First Elite Position 1 Central Committee 2 Central Committee Candidate 3 Central Auditing Commission
28	Highest Non-Elite Party Position When First Became Elite 0 None 1 Party Department Head 2 Party Control Commission (or Central Control Commission) 3 Republican Secretary 4 Republican Bureau

Variable No.	Description
	5 Regional-Local Secretary 6 All-Union Apparatchiki 7 Other Apparatchiki 8 Comintern Official 9 N.A.
29	Highest Non-Elite Government Position When First Became Elite 0 None 1 Chairman of USSR Council of Ministers 2 Presidium of USSR Council of Ministers 3 Minister (Commissar) 4 Chairman of State Committee or Department of Ministerial Rank 5 Chairman of Union Republic Council of Ministers, or Rep. Min. Post 6 Judicial-Legal Official 7 Ambassador 8 Presidium of Supreme Soviet 9 N.A.
30	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position Held When First Became Elite 0 None 1 Komsomol Official 2 Trade-Union Official 3 Official of Cultural Union 4 Official of Professional Union 5 Official of Scientific or Learned Academy 6 Managerial Post 7 Military Officer 8 Worker-Peasant 9 N.A.
31	Republic in Which Non-Elite Party Position Held 00 Was an All-Union Post 01 Russia 02 Ukraine 03 Uzbekistan 04 Belorussia 05 Kazakhstan 06 Azerbaidjan

Variable No.	Description
	07 Armenia 08 Georgia 09 Moldavia 10 Lithuania 11 Tadzhikistan 12 Turkmenistan 13 Kirgiz 14 Latvia 15 Estonia 16 None Held 99 N.A.
32	Republic in Which Non-Elite Govt Position Held Same as V31
33	Republic in Which Non-Elite, Non-Political Position Held Same as V31
34	Highest Elite Position Achieved 0 Career Not Complete 1 Politburo (Presidium) 2 Secretariat 3 Orgburo 4 Central Committee 5 Central Committee Candidate 6 Central Auditing Commission 9 N.A.
35	Elite Service Record 1 Continuous and Upward to Present, Death or Retirement 2 Interrupted by Demotion, Not Returned 3 Interrupted by Expulsion From Elite (Returned later) 4 Ended by Expulsion (Includes Purge, Liquidation, etc.) 9 N.A.
36	Reason for Finally Leaving Elite 0 Still in Elite 1 Death from Assumed Natural Causes, Accident or Suicide 2 Death by Liquidation, Execution, in Prison-Exile

Variable No.	Description
	3 Purged 4 Retired-Resigned 5 Not Reelected 9 N.A.
37	Total Number of Years in Elite 00 Still in Elite 99 N.A.
38	Highest Elite Position Held as Result of 6th Party Congress (RSDRP /B/), 1917 0 None 1 Politburo 2 Politburo Candidate 3 Secretariat 4 Orgburo 5 Central Committee 6 Central Committee Candidate 7 Central Auditing Commission 9 N.A.
39	Highest Non-Elite Party Position When Named Elite at 6th Party Congress 0 None 1 Party Department Head 2 Party Control Commission 3 Republican Secretary 4 Republican Bureau 5 Regional-Local Secretary 6 All-Union Apparatchiki 7 Other Apparatchiki 8 Comintern Official 9 N.A.
40	Highest Non-Elite Government Position When Named Elite at 6th Party Congress 0 None 1 Chairman of USSR Council of Ministers 2 Presidium or USSR Council of Ministers 3 Minister (Commissar) 4 Chairman of State Committee or Department Head with Ministerial Rank 5 Chairman of Union-Republic Council of Ministers or Republican Minister 6 Judicial-Legal Official 7 Ambassador 8 Presidium of USSR Supreme Soviet 9 N.A.

Variable No.	Description
41	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position When Named Elite at 6th Party Congress 0 None 1 Komsomol Official 2 Trade-Union Official 3 Official of Cultural Union 4 Official of Professional Union 5 Official of Scientific or Learned Academy 6 Managerial Post 7 Military Officer 8 Worker-Peasant 9 N.A.
42	Elite Position--7th Party Congress (RCP/ B/), 1918 Same as V38
43	Non-Elite Party Position--7th Congress Same as V39
44	Non-Elite Government Position--7th Congress Same as V40
45	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--7th Congress Same as V41
46	Elite Position--8th Party Congress (RCP /B/), 1919 Same as V38
47	Non-Elite Party Position--8th Congress Same as V39
48	Non-Elite Government Position--8th Congress Same as V40
49	Non-Elite Non-Political Position--8th Congress Same as V41
50	Elite Position--9th Party Congress (RCP /B/), 1920 Same as V38
51	Non-Elite Party Position--9th Congress Same as V39

Variable No.	Description
52	Non-Elite Government Position--9th Congress Same as V40
53	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--9th Congress Same as V41
54	Elite Position--10th Party Congress (RCP /B_/), 1921 Same as V38
55	Non-Elite Party Position--10th Congress Same as V39
56	Non-Elite Government Position--10th Congress Same as V40
57	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--10th Congress Same as V41
58	Elite Position--11th Party Congress (RCP /B_/), 1922 Same as V38
59	Non-Elite Party Position--11th Congress Same as V39
60	Non-Elite Government Position--11th Congress Same as V40
61	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--11th Congress Same as V41
62	Elite Position--12th Party Congress (RCP /B_/), 1923 Same as V38
63	Non-Elite Party Position--12th Congress Same as V39
64	Non-Elite Government Position--12th Congress Same as V40

Variable No.	Description
65	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--12th Congress Same as V41
66	Elite Position--13th Party Congress (RCP /B/), 1924 Same as V38
67	Non-Elite Party Position--13th Congress Same as V39
68	Non-Elite Government Position--13th Congress Same as V40
69	Non-Elite, Non-Political Post--13th Congress Same as V41
70	Elite Position--14th Party Congress (CPSU /B/), 1925 Same as V38
71	Non-Elite Party Position--14th Congress Same as V39
72	Non-Elite Government Position--14th Congress Same as V40
73	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--14th Congress Same as V41
74	Elite Position--15th Party Congress (CPSU /B/), 1927 Same as V38
75	Non-Elite Party Position--15th Congress Same as V39
76	Non-Elite Government Position--15th Congress Same as V40
77	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--15th Congress Same as V41

Variable No.	Description
78	Elite Position--16th Party Congress (CPSU /B/), 1930 Same as V38
79	Non-Elite Party Position--16th Congress Same as V39
80	Non-Elite Government Position--16th Congress Same as V40
81	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--16th Congress Same as V41
82	Elite Position--17th Party Congress (CPSU /B/), 1934 Same as V38
83	Non-Elite Party Position--17th Congress Same as V39
84	Non-Elite Government Position--17th Congress Same as V40
85	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--17th Congress Same as V41
86	Elite Position--18th Party Congress (CPSU /B/), 1939 Same as V38
87	Non-Elite Party Position--18th Congress Same as V39
88	Non-Elite Government Position--18th Congress Same as V40
89	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--18th Congress Same as V41
90	Elite Position--18th Party Conference (CPSU /B/), 1941 Same as V38

Variable No.	Description
91	Non-Elite Party Position--18th Party Conference Same as V39
92	Non-Elite Government Position--18th Conference Same as V40
93	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--18th Conference Same as V41
94	Elite Position--19th Party Congress (CPSU /B_/), 1952 Same as V38
95	Non-Elite Party Position--19th Congress Same as V39
96	Non-Elite Government Position--19th Congress Same as V40
97	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--19th Congress Same as V41
98	Elite Position--20th Party Congress (CPSU), 1956 Same as V38
99	Non-Elite Party Position--20th Congress Same as V39
100	Non-Elite Government Position--20th Congress Same as V40
101	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--20th Congress Same as V41
102	Elite Position--21st Party Congress (CPSU), 1959 Same as V38
103	Non-Elite Party Position--21st Congress Same as V39

Variable No.	Description
104	Non-Elite Government Position--21st Congress Same as V40
105	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--21st Congress Same as V41
106	Elite Position--22nd Party Congress (CPSU), 1961 Same as V38
107	Non-Elite Party Position--22nd Congress Same as V39
108	Non-Elite Government Position--22nd Congress Same as V40
109	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--22nd Congress Same as V41
110	Elite Position--23rd Party Congress (CPSU), 1966 Same as V38
111	Non-Elite Party Position--23rd Congress Same as V39
119	Non-Elite Government Position--23rd Congress Same as V40
120	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--23rd Congress Same as V41
121	Elite Position--24th Party Congress (CPSU), 1971 Same as V38
122	Non-Elite Party Position--24th Congress Same as V39
123	Non-Elite Government Position--24th Congress Same as V40

Variable No.	Description
124	Non-Elite, Non-Political Position--24th Congress Same as V41
125	Elite Name (Last Name First)

APPENDIX II

RESUME OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR USERS

The data available through this archive has been coded and organized in a standard OSIRIS dataset consisting of a dictionary file which identifies the variables and a data file which contains the information. Using the available codebooks the user need only select that data required for his investigation and then request that the data be subjected to any of a number of statistical procedures and tests available in the OSIRIS package.

The programs made available by the Inter-University Consortium for Political Research in their OSIRIS data handling package are being constantly revised, added to and deleted. Therefore it is impossible to indicate exactly what programs will be available at any specific time. However, a number of programs constitute the core of the package and it is likely that with only slight variations these core programs will always be available.

The purpose of this resume is to outline the most important programs available and to suggest ways in which these programs might be used with the available data. More specific information, or information on the availability of additional programs will be made available upon request.

Programs

Index Reconstruction and Recoding (ICON)

Although it was intended that the data provided would be organized in such a manner as to be most generally useful, it is often necessary for the user to restructure the data to meet specific research needs. The ICON program is the basic data management program available in the OSIRIS package. The operation available fall into several categories: (1) transferring variables; 2) recoding variables; 3) directing program flow through sets of logical instructions; 4) creating new data sets in the form of output records. ICON can generate intermediate data sets for subsequent analysis or create derived data sets which can be kept for future use.

Application: The user might wish to convert nationality designations into more general regional groupings such as European, Central

Asia, and Transcaucasian. Or the user might wish to collapse age designations into groups such as "young" and "old." In either case the raw data can be reclassified by ICON and new data groups created. Any operation requiring the recoding of variables or the restructuring of the file would therefore require the use of ICON.

Means and Marginals

This is simply a summarizing program. It will count cases, indicate the number of missing data cases, provide information on ranges, means, standard deviation and provide percentages of each category within a variable.

Application: The use of means and marginals is generally a first step in a research project. For an elite analysis it would indicate what percentage of the sample were members of a particular nationality, or were a particular age or practiced a particular occupation. On interval level data it would also provide means so that at a glance it would be possible to tell the average of a group or the average number of years they had been members of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In cases where data was missing they could be eliminated from the calculations. This fact is very important because there are many instances when data for one or more individuals was not available on one or more variables.

Bivariate Frequencies

Perhaps the most important operation available, bivariate frequencies provides a cross-tabulation of any two variables. The user indicates which variable will be independent (causal) and which dependent and the program provides a table of results. This is particularly useful for nominal and ordinal level data. In addition the user may introduce control or filter variables in order to further analyze the relationship between variables. The tabulation of these relationships can be done in one of three ways since data can be summed by rows, columns or marginals. Output is in the form of percentages in each data cell. Each table is accompanied by a series of statistical options which measure the significance of the correlation between the variables. These tests include contingency coefficient, chi-square, TAU-B, gamma and lambda. Variations of this program will process either single-digit or double digit variables.

Application: Any time the researcher wishes to know how two variables are related to one another this program may be used. Topics which might be investigated would include the relationship between such variables as nationality, age, years of Party Service or education and elite position. Do more Russians get into the elite than Ukrainians? Have there been any changes in elite qualifications over the years? What is the relationship between a person's occupation and his chances of getting into the Soviet political Elite? These are the types of questions which can be answered by bivariate frequency analysis. At the same time the strength of these relationships can be measured regardless of the type of data. Strictly nominal categories such as nationality are subject to statistical measurement and this program is particularly useful for the analysis of "low-level" data such as this.

Factor Analysis

In order to apply factor analysis to the available data set recoding is necessary. Since factor analyses will not work on nominal level data all variables must be made dichotomous (and therefore ordinal). This is a complex procedure and it is recommended that the user not familiar with factor analysis acquaint himself with factor analytic techniques before undertaking this type of analysis.

Application: When employed properly factor analysis has proven extremely useful in elite studies as well as aggregate data studies generally. Factor analysis has, for example, been employed to determine whether there are identifiable elite types or recruitment channels in the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries.[1]

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[1]See Carl Beck, "Biography and the Analysis of Leadership in Communist Political Systems," Paper delivered at the 65th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, New York City, September 2-6, 1969; Vincent McHale and Joseph Mastro, "The Central Committee of the CPSU: Analysis of Composition and Long-Term Trends," Paper delivered at the 66th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association, Los Angeles, California, September 8-12, 1970; Peter Zwick, "An Aggregate Biographical Analysis of the Soviet Political Elite," (unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Duke University, 1971), pp. 348-382.

Missing Data Correlations

This program provides a matrix of product-moment correlations between all pairs of variables designated by the user. All missing data is deleted from the computation.

Application: For interval level data this program provides a concise measure of correlation between variables. Factors such as the relationship between age and Party seniority may suggest the degree to which being a member of the elite is a function of one's ability to survive politically or whether intervening achievement factors play a significant role in elite recruitment.

Non-parametric statistics

OSIRIS provides a package of general non-parametric statistics which include: Mann-Whitney's U, sign tests, Wilcoxon matched-pairs signed-rank tests, and Spearman rank correlation coefficients.

Application: These tests of correlation significance all have numerous applications to all interval and some ordinal level data. It is not possible to specify an application other than by knowing the specific needs of the researcher. The researcher should familiarize himself with these statistics in order to determine their applicability to his research needs.

Miscellaneous Programs

In addition to the programs specifically outlined above OSIRIS provides numerous programs which may have limited application to aggregate data. Many of these programs have been developed for use with survey or roll-call data but could have application in aggregate data studies. They are merely listed here for the information of users but further information will be supplied on request.

- One-Way Analysis of Variance
- Point Biserial Correlation Coefficients
- Linear Regression
- Multiple Analysis of Variance
- Automatic Interaction Detector (Stepwise regression)
- Cluster Analysis
- Multidimensional Scaling
- Scatterplot

APPENDIX III

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Through a grant provided by the United States Office of Education an Aggregate Data Archive has been established at the Russian Area Studies Center of Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge.

The purpose of this archive is to provide interested parties with machine retrievable data on the Soviet Union for individual research. All data has been collected and organized into the standard data set format of the OSIRIS data system of the Inter-University Consortium for Political Research (ICPR).

In addition to data provided by the ICPR packages such as the Yale Political Data Program and the Cross-Polity Survey the archive contains a complete biographical file on all Soviet Political elites, past and present.

Any researcher interested in obtaining details regarding the data currently on file should communicate such requests to:

Dr. Peter Zwick
Department of Political Science
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

A codebook of available data and a user's manual are available and all data will be provided on a cost-plus-overhead basis to all qualified users. The Center will also do machine processing of data for researchers who do not have direct access to the OSIRIS program on the same cost-plus-overhead basis.

Both faculty and students are welcome to make inquiries.

(This bulletin will be reproduced and circulated to potentially interested parties.)